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# FIELD CROPS

Crop Production



September 17, 2001

## FLORIDA

**FLORIDA:** Spotty showers during August left soils dry in many localities. The regrowth of hay was hindered by dry soils in a few localities. However, wet soils in some areas delayed the start of peanut digging and slowed haymaking and the spraying of peanuts for leaf spot. Corn harvesting began during late August. Sugarcane remained in good condition during August despite water restrictions. Older cotton fields showed open bolls by the end of August. In early September, peanut digging and cotton picking got underway.

**PEANUTS:** Growers hope to dig 87,000 acres for nuts this year, 1,000 acres more than last year. Yield is expected to average 2,800 pounds per acre, compared with 2,485 pounds per acre dug in 2000, and equal to the August estimate. Production is estimated at 243,600,000 pounds, up 29,890,000 pounds or 14 percent from the 213,710,000 pounds produced in 2000. Digging started in early September.

**SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED:** The 2001 sugarcane crop production is placed at 16,740,000 tons, down two percent or 305,000 tons from the 2000 crop, and unchanged from the August estimate. Producers expect to harvest 465,000 acres and average 36 tons per acre. Most acreage received adequate moisture during August and early September. Harvesting is expected to begin in mid-October.

**TOBACCO:** Harvesting is nearly done. Production is set at 11,700,000 pounds, equal to the August estimate and 225,000 pounds higher than the 11,475,000 pounds pulled in 2000. Yield is placed at 2,600 pounds per acre compared with 2,550 pounds per acre averaged in 2000. Acreage harvested is placed at 4,500 acres, equal to last year.

## UNITED STATES

**COTTON:** All cotton production is forecast at 20.0 million 480-pound bales, down slightly from last month, but up 16 percent from 2000. The slight decrease in production is due to lower harvested acreage, based on administrative data, in many of the large cotton producing States. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 679 pounds per harvested acre, up 9 pounds from last month. Condition of the cotton crop has remained mostly fair to good throughout August. However, several weeks of dry conditions have led to a reduction of yield in South Carolina, while excessive moisture has resulted in a reduction of yield in Louisiana. Harvested acreage, at 14.1 million acres, reflects a decrease from August 1 of 70,000 acres in Arkansas, 50,000 acres in Louisiana, 50,000 acres in Mississippi, 75,000 acres in North Carolina, and an increase of 45,000 acres in California.

**PEANUTS:** Production is forecast at 3.73 billion pounds, up 2 percent from last month and 14 percent above last year's crop. Area for harvest is expected to total 1.39 million acres, down 5,000 acres from August but up 4 percent from 2000. Yields are expected to average 2,679 pounds per acre, 58 pounds above last month and up 235 pounds from 2000. Production in the Southeast States (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) is expected to total 2.06 billion pounds, down slightly from last month but 12 percent above last year's level. Yield in the four-State area is expected to average 2,702 pounds per acre, down 2 pounds from August but 309 pounds above 2000. Yield prospects in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia were unchanged from last month while South Carolina decreased 100 pounds. As of September 2, the crop condition in the region was mostly fair to good.

**SUGARCANE:** Production is forecast at a record high 36.6 million tons, 1 percent above the previous record of 36.1 million tons set last year. Sugarcane growers intend to harvest a record high 1.03 million acres for sugar and seed during the 2001 crop year, slightly higher than last year's final harvested acres, but 1 percent less than the August estimate. Yield is forecast at 35.6 tons per acre, 0.4 ton above 2000 and 0.1 ton above the August forecast. Louisiana's harvested acreage is expected to decrease 1 percent from last year's record acreage, the first year-to-year decline since 1996. The yield and production forecasts in Louisiana are record highs, due to abundant moisture and near normal temperatures. The Texas crop

has also experienced favorable growing conditions. Mostly dry weather, with only occasional light showers, favored harvest in Hawaii.

**TOBACCO:** Flue-cured tobacco production is expected to total 582 million pounds, 2 percent above last month but down 3 percent from 2000. Growers plan to harvest 247,500 acres in 2001, down 1 percent from last year. Yields are forecast to average 2,352 pounds per acre, 39 pounds above the August forecast but 44 pounds less than the previous year. Yields in North Carolina, the leading flue-cured State, increased from the August forecast due to continued, excellent growing conditions. In addition, the absence of destructive tropical storms has limited any decreases to yield potential.

**CORN FOR GRAIN:** Production is forecast at 9.24 billion bushels, down less than 1 percent from last month and 7 percent from 2000. Based on conditions as of September 1, yields are expected to average 133.5 bushels per acre, down 0.4 bushel from August. If realized, this would be the lowest yield and production since 1997. Forecast yields are down in the northwest Corn Belt due to early-August hot, dry weather during critical reproductive and grain-filling stages. Yield prospects improved in Indiana, Nebraska, and Ohio due to timely rainfall and more seasonal temperatures in the latter part of August. In Michigan and the Northeast, extremely dry weather during the entire month greatly diminished yield prospects. Timely and plentiful rainfall in the mid-Atlantic and Southeastern States provided ideal growing conditions for corn fields and farmers are harvesting better than expected yields. Yield prospects in the southern Great Plains are mixed as yield expectations increased where rain fell, but declined where it didn't rain.

**SOYBEANS:** Production is forecast at a record high 2.83 billion bushels, down 1 percent from August 1, but 2 percent above 2000. Based on September 1 conditions, yields are expected to average 38.2 bushels per acre, down 0.5 bushel from last month but 0.1 bushel above 2000. Forecast yields are down in Michigan, the northern and central Great Plains, and the Northeast due to moisture shortages. Yield prospects improved in the Ohio Valley, lower Mississippi Valley, and Texas due to above normal rainfall. Acreage for harvest is estimated at a record 74.1 million acres, unchanged from last month but up 2 percent from 2000.

Crop production: Acreage for harvest and forecasts of yield and production for Florida and United States as of August 1, 2001 with comparisons

Crop	Harvested acreage		Yield per acre		Unit	Production	
	2000	For harvest 2001	2000	Indicated 2001		2000	Indicated 2001
	Thousands		Units			Thousands	
FLORIDA							
Cotton <sup>2/</sup>	106	124	480	650	<sup>1/</sup>	106	168
Peanuts	86	87	2,485	2,800	Lbs.	213,710	243,600
Potatoes:							
Winter <sup>2/</sup>	8.0	5.0	260	240	Cwt	2,080	1,200
Spring <sup>2/</sup>	21.5	22.0	295	270	Cwt	6,343	5,940
Sugarcane	445	465	38.3	36.0	Ton	17,045	16,740
Tobacco, Type 14	4.5	4.5	2,550	2,600	Lbs.	11,475	11,700
UNITED STATES							
Corn for grain	72,732	69,191	137.1	133.5	Bu.	9,968,358	9,238,356
Cotton, all <sup>4/</sup>	13,053	14,138	632	679	<sup>1/</sup>	17,188.3	19,992.0
Hay, all	59,854	63,833	2.54	2.48	Ton	152,183	158,241
Peanuts for nuts	1,336.0	1,390.5	2,444	2,679	Lbs.	3,265,505	3,725,550
Potatoes:							
Winter <sup>2/</sup>	17.0	14.0	292	285	Cwt	4,960	3,990
Spring <sup>2/</sup>	75.6	72.5	290	269	Cwt	21,921	19,500
Summer <sup>2/</sup>	63.2	59.2	304	296	Cwt	19,236	17,503
Fall <sup>6/</sup>	1,192.2	1,089.2	392	<sup>5/</sup>	Cwt	467,504	<sup>5/</sup>
Rice	3,039	3,290	6,281	6,272	<sup>3/</sup>	190,872	206,349
Sorghum for grain	7,723	8,777	60.9	61.2	Bu.	470,070	537,110
Soybeans for beans	72,718	74,137	38.1	38.2	Bu.	2,769,665	2,833,511
Sugarbeets	1,374.3	1,330.9	23.6	21.1	Ton	32,436	28,081
Sugarcane for sugar and seed	1,025.7	1,030.2	35.2	35.6	Ton	36,117	36,645
Tobacco, All	472.4	451.3	2,229	2,268	Lbs.	1,052,998	1,023,730
Tobacco, Type 14	35.5	31.5	2,262	2,429	Lbs.	80,295	76,500
Wheat, all	53,028	49,331	41.9	40.4	Bu.	2,223,440	1,991,077
Winter <sup>2/</sup>	35,022	31,657	44.6	43.8	Bu.	1,562,733	1,385,048
Durum	3,572	2,975	30.7	29.1	Bu.	109,805	86,459
Other spring	14,434	14,699	38.2	35.3	Bu.	550,902	519,570

<sup>1/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in 480 pound net weight bales. <sup>2/</sup> Estimates for current year carried forward from earlier forecast.  
<sup>3/</sup> Yield in pounds, production in hundredweight. <sup>4/</sup> Includes both upland and Amer-Pima cotton. <sup>5/</sup> First forecast in November.  
<sup>6/</sup> 2000 estimates revised.